

SUB
C1

18. (New) A machine part selected from a group including an automobile part such as a vibration damper or a sealing member such as an O-ring, a bicycle part such as a wire cover of a speed changer, image forming apparatus part such as a roller or a belt and other machine part such as a seal member, having a portion to be in contact with another object, said portion being made of an organic polymer material selected from a group including resin and rubber, and said portion having a flexible surface entirely or partly coated with a DLC(diamond like carbon) film having a wear resistance and a lubricity as well as a thickness exhibiting flexibility substantially conforming to the flexibility of the surface of said portion.

B1
Cond

19. (New) A machine part selected from a group including an automobile part such as a hose, a sealing member such as an O-ring and other machine part such as a hose, seal member, a pipe or a sheet employed in a machine, having a portion to be in contact with another object, said portion being made of an organic polymer material selected from a group including resin and rubber, and said portion having a flexible surface entirely or partly coated with a DLC(diamond like carbon) film having a wear resistance and a lubricity as well as a gas barrier property and having a thickness exhibiting flexibility substantially conforming to the flexibility of the surface of said portion.

20. (New) A machine part selected from a group including an automobile part such as a body, a part of the body or a window pane and a bicycle part such as a fender, a rim or a wheel disk used as a substitute for spokes, having a portion to be in contact with a water, said portion being made of an organic polymer material selected from a group including resin and rubber, and said portion having a surface entirely or partly coated with a DLC(diamond like carbon) film having wear resistance and water repellency.

SUB
C2

21. (New) A machine part selected from a group including an automobile part such as a diaphragm of a diaphragm pump and other machine part such as a diaphragm of a diaphragm pump employed in an artificial heart device or a fluid circuit, having a portion to be in contact with a liquid, said portion being made of an organic polymer material selected from a group including resin and rubber, and said portion having a flexible surface entirely or partly coated with a DLC(diamond like carbon) film having a wear

resistance and a water repellency as well as a thickness exhibiting flexibility substantially conforming to the flexibility of the surface of said portion.

22. (New) A wiper blade employed in a machine such as an automobile and having a portion to be in contact with a water and a window pane of the machine, said portion being made of an organic polymer material selected from a group including resin and rubber, and said portion having a flexible surface entirely or partly coated with a DLC(diamond like carbon) film having a wear resistance and a lubricity as well as a water repellency, and having a thickness exhibiting flexibility substantially conforming to the flexibility of the surface of said portion.

23. (New) A machine part selected from a group including an automobile tire and a bicycle tire, having a portion to be in contact with another object, said portion being made of an organic polymer material selected from a group including resin and rubber, and said portion having a flexible surface entirely or partly coated with a DLC(diamond like carbon) film having a wear resistance, a lubricity and a water repellency as well as a gas barrier property and having a thickness exhibiting flexibility substantially conforming to the flexibility of the surface of said portion.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated June 29, 2001 has been received and carefully noted. In view of this reply, the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto. By this Amendment, claim 3 is cancelled and new claims 16-23 are added. No new matter is added. Consideration of claims 6, 13, and 16-23 is respectfully requested. It should be noted that claims 1, 2, and 4 should also be considered since they are generic claims.

Claim 1 is directed to an object having a portion to be in contact with another object. The portion is made of at least one kind of material that is selected from a group including polymer material such as resin or rubber as well as glass. The portion has a surface entirely or partially coated with a carbon film having a wear resistance as well as at least one of a lubricity, a water repellency, and a gas barrier property.